

J. Doug Bearden
Bearden's Stained Glass & Door
7600 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park, KS 66204-2928

Secretary Jennifer Johnson
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20551

Dear Secretary Johnson-

When I started my business thirty years ago, customers paid by cash and check. In recent years, debit and credit cards have become a huge part of my business. Banks and credit card companies know how dependent businesses have become on card purchases, which gives them an unfair advantage.

In the past, I have shopped around for the lowest possible fees. However, my efforts are better spent elsewhere. After all, I have a business to run, and I cannot be spending my time trying to negotiate fees. The more of my time that is spent dealing with banks, the less time and energy I have to generate the business needed to keep my doors open.

It is frustrating to observe how many businesses have gone under, particularly when I know all too well what a burden bank fees can impose on these already precarious operations. Banks and credit card companies have been given a great deal of assistance in recent years, and it is time that small business owners catch a break. Regulating swipe fees is an excellent way to offer relief to us, and I am thankful for your continued support.

Sincerely,


J. Doug Bearden